GUMBY'S CIRCUS

by Holly Harman

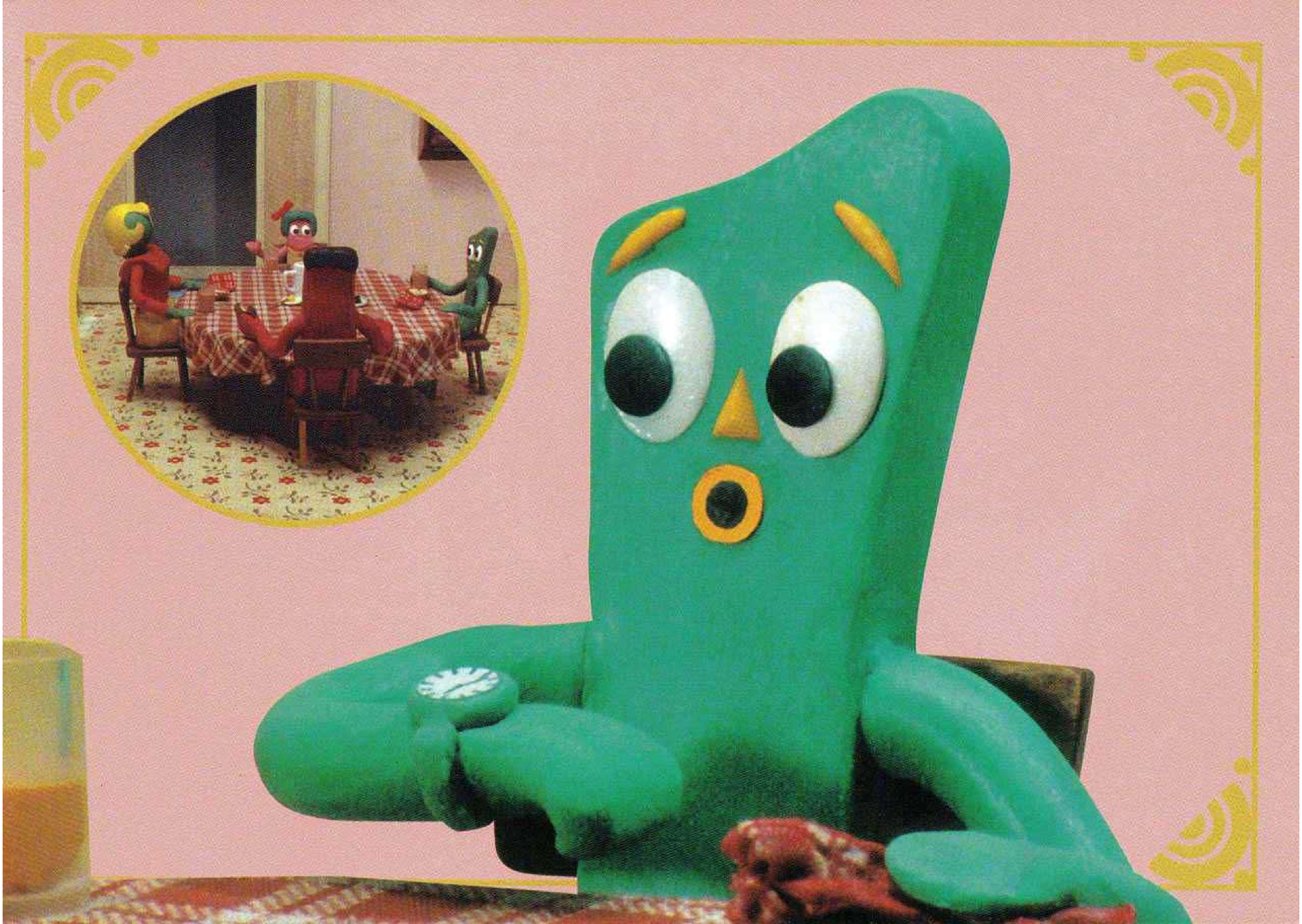
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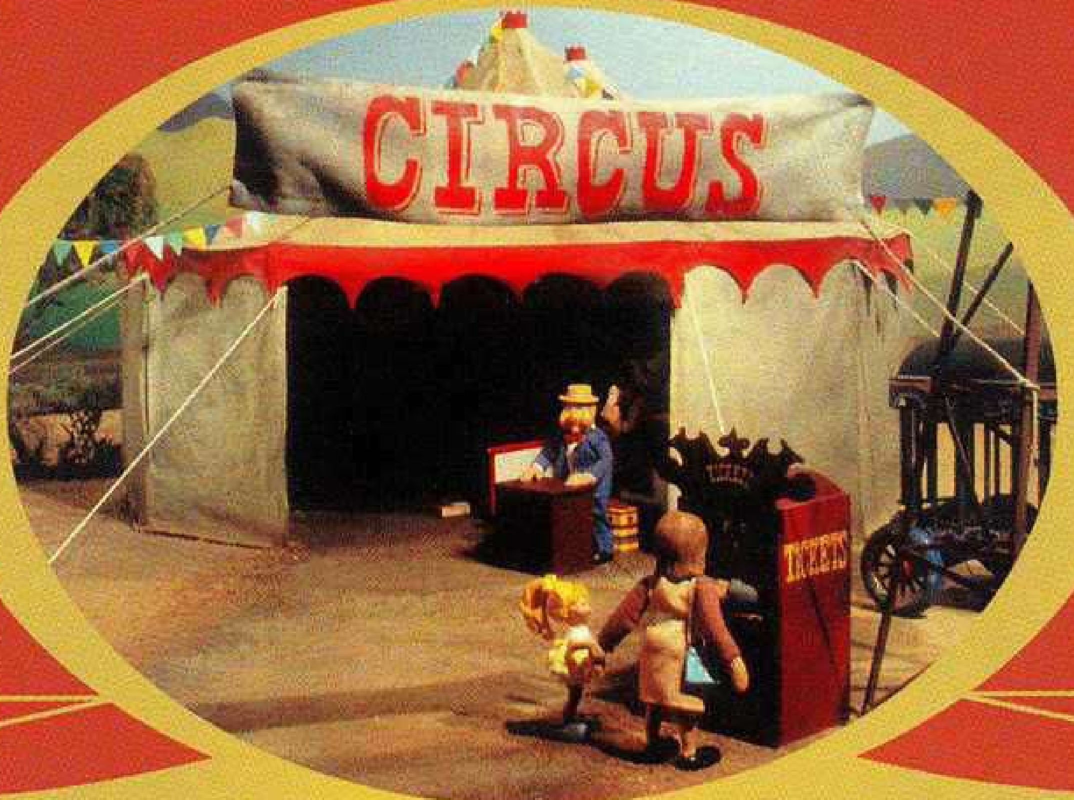
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"Boy, I've got to run! The circus starts in two hours and I still have to make sure everything is all set up."

Gumby is putting on a circus with all of his friends.

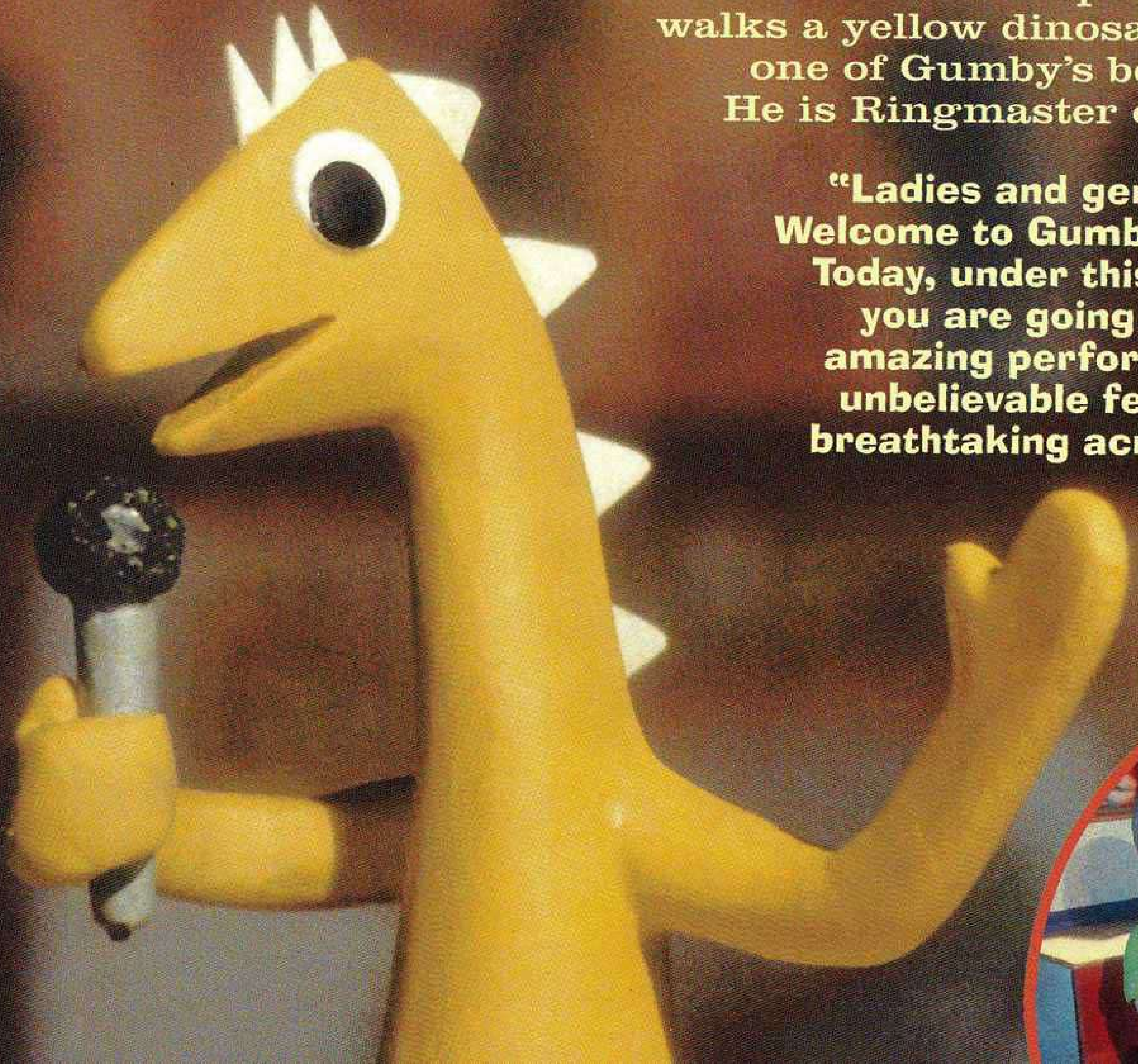




Gumby's circus crew has set up a
big circus tent by the barn.
Children and adults from all around
the countryside are gathered
inside the tent, waiting excitedly
to see the spectacular acts.
Hang onto your seats—the event
is about to begin!

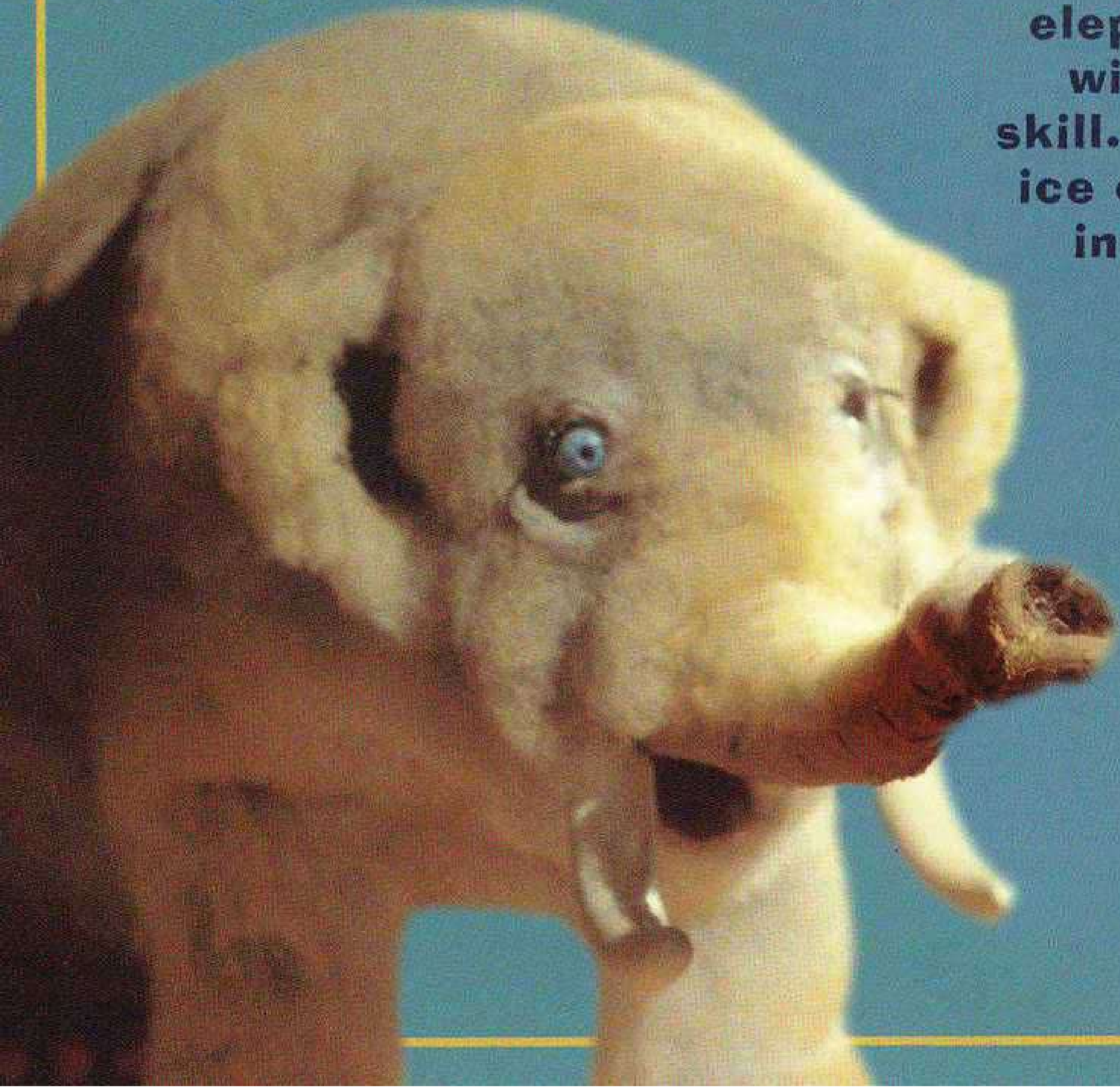
Into the spotlight
walks a yellow dinosaur. It's Prickle,
one of Gumby's best friends.
He is Ringmaster of the circus.

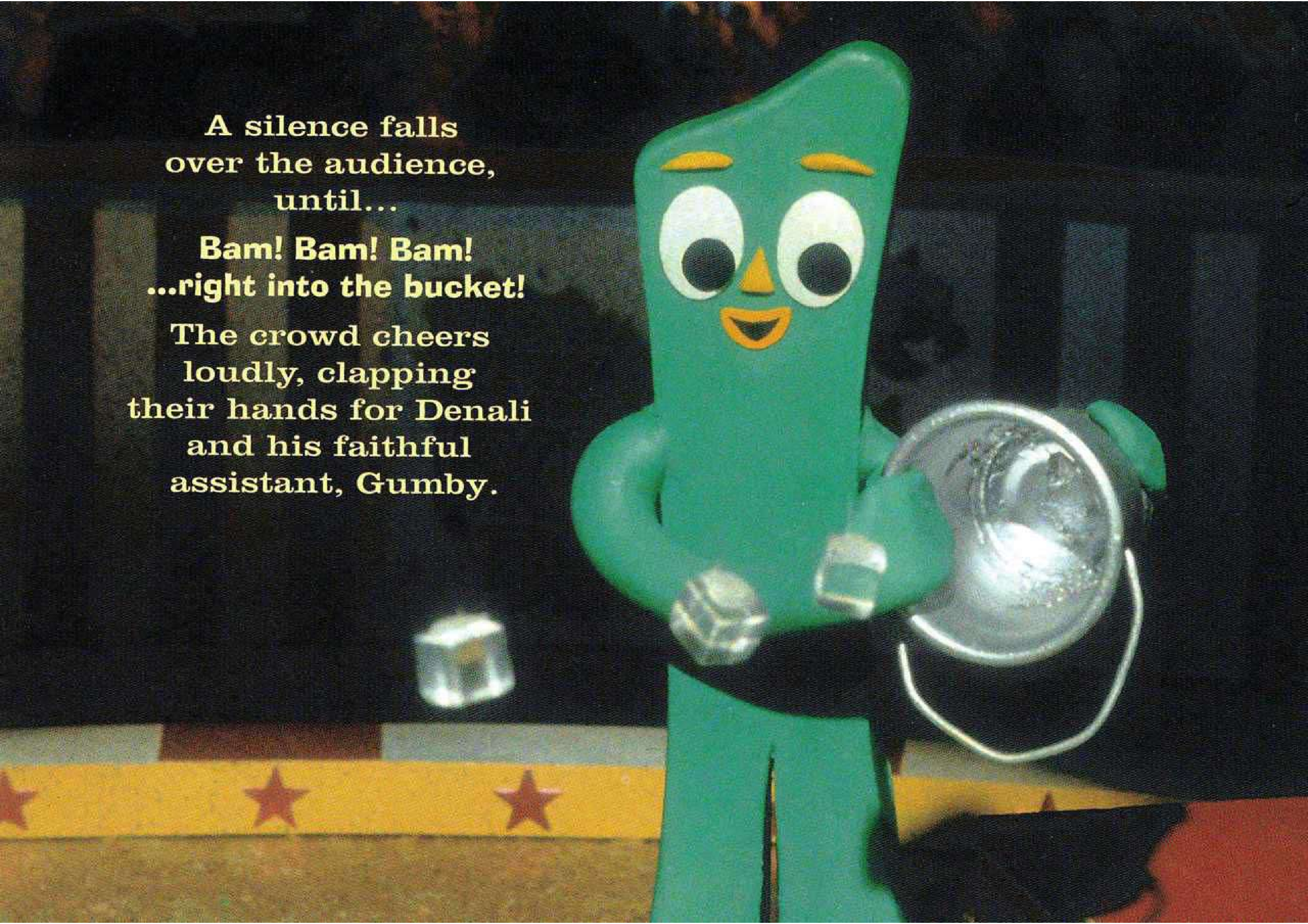
**"Ladies and gentlemen!
Welcome to Gumby's Circus.
Today, under this big top,
you are going to see
amazing performances,
unbelievable feats and
breathtaking acrobatics."**





"Introducing Denali,
the Magnificent Mastodon!
This ancient arctic
elephant will amaze you
with his bone-chilling
skill. Denali will now shoot
ice cubes from his trunk
into Gumby's bucket
on the other
side of the ring!"





A silence falls
over the audience,
until...

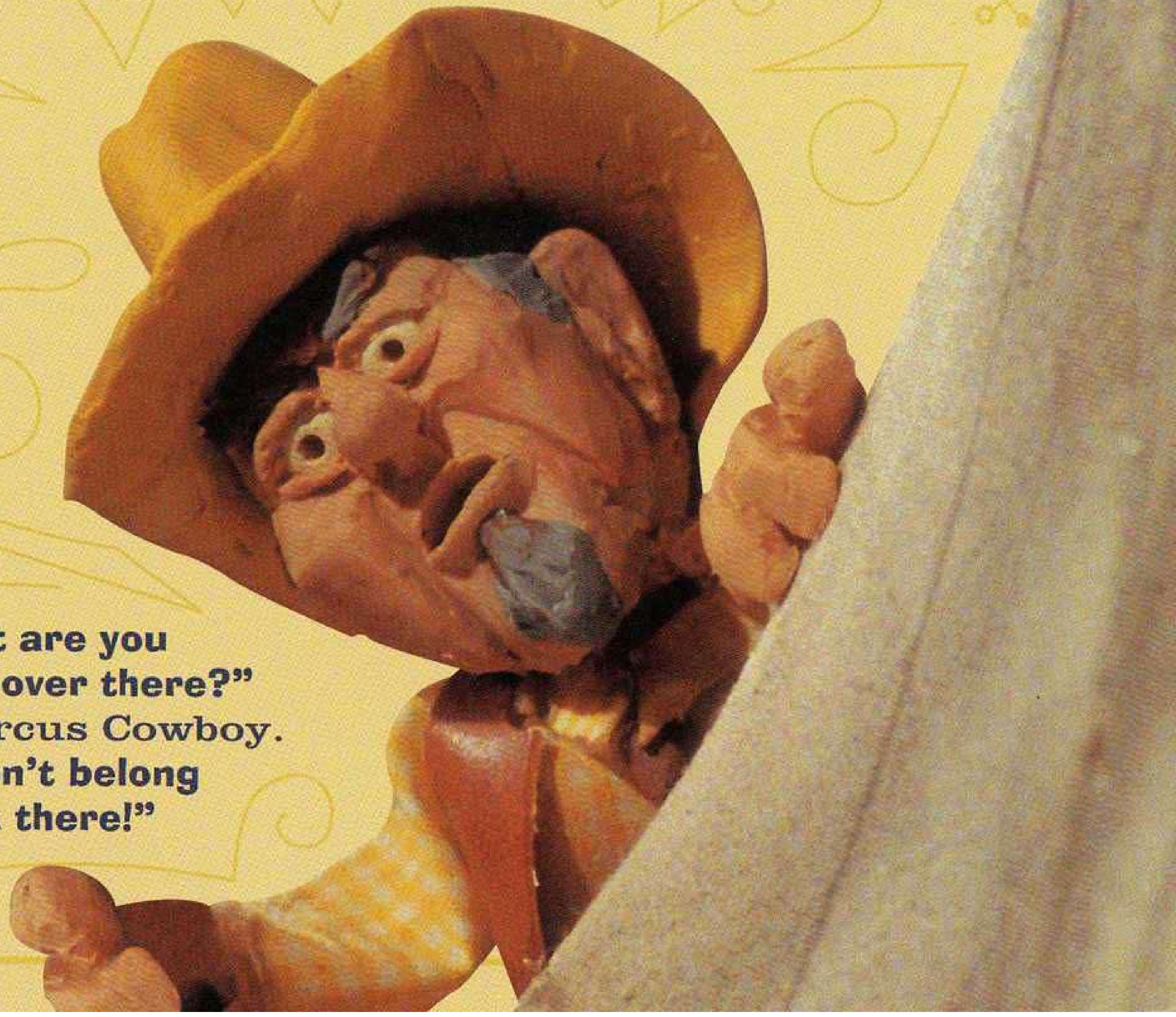
Bam! Bam! Bam!
...right into the bucket!

The crowd cheers
loudly, clapping
their hands for Denali
and his faithful
assistant, Gumby.

Meanwhile, in
the woods
behind the tent,
two red bullies
appear with
mischievous glints
in their eyes.
It's the Blockheads!

They are searching
for some secret way
to sneak through
the fence and onto the
circus grounds.



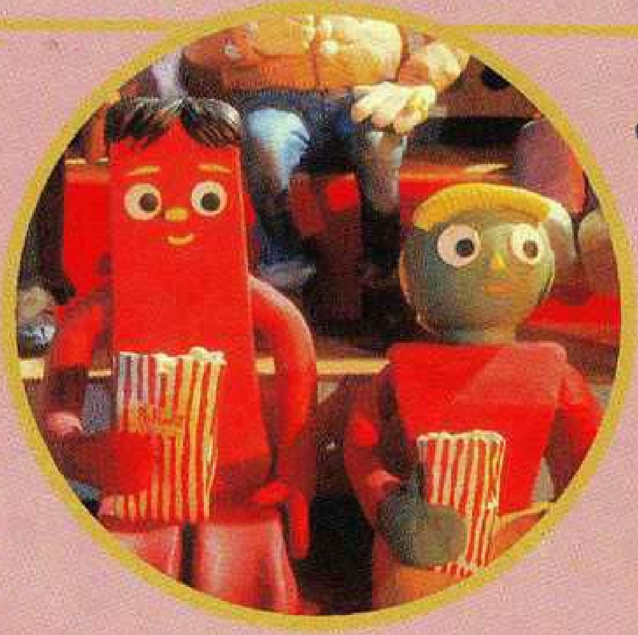


"What are you
two doing over there?"
asks the Circus Cowboy.
"You don't belong
back there!"



Back in the center ring, Ringmaster Prickle introduces the second act, unaware of the approaching pranksters outside.

"On the pillow before me, you see the Extraordinary Expanding Beetle. This is no ordinary beetle."



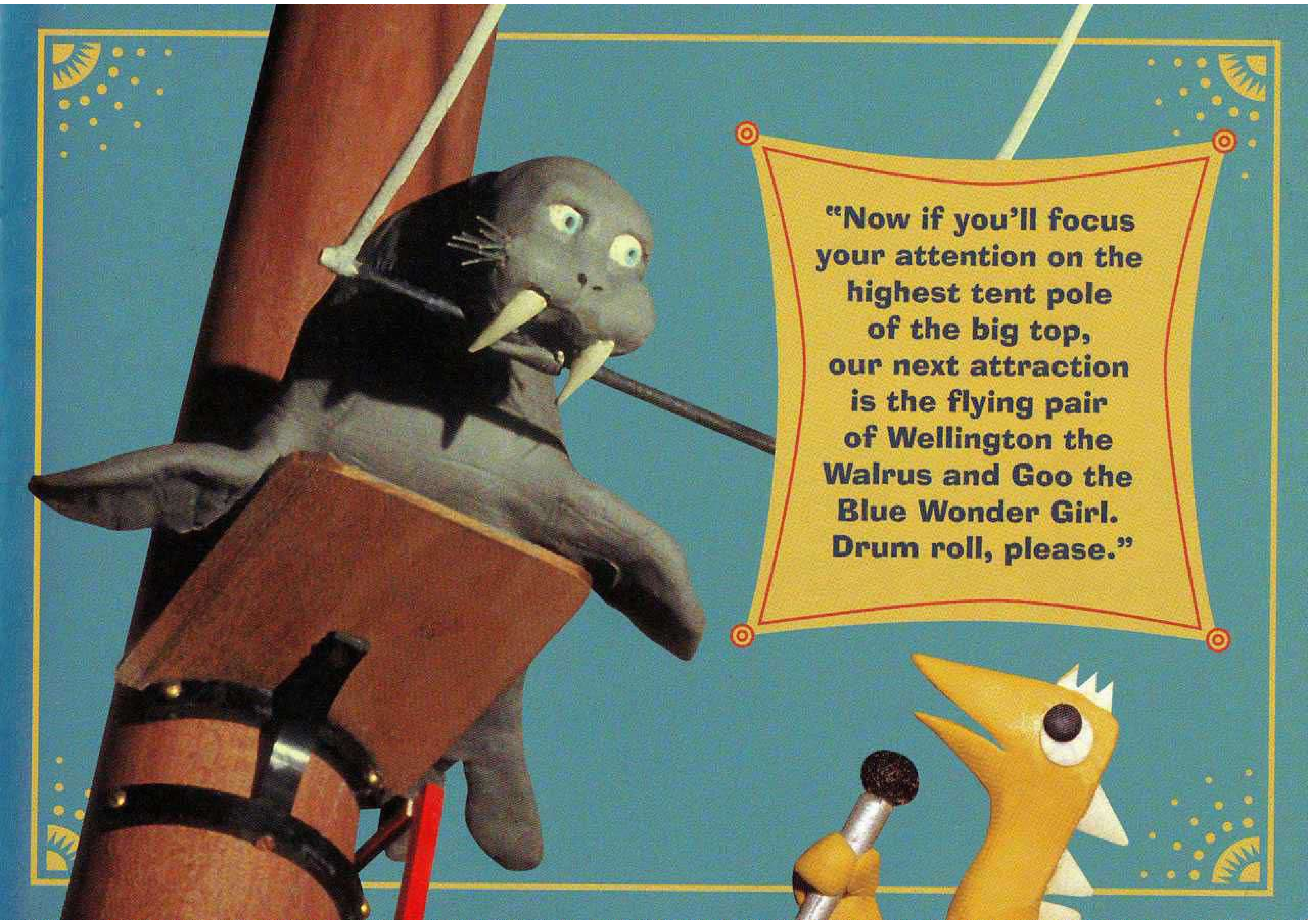
"The power of the beetle is awakened only by the sound of a crisp carrot being eaten. I now ask that you all be perfectly still."



Crunch, crunch, crunch.
As Pokey bites the carrot, the sound makes the beetle grow.



Suddenly, the little
beetle is an
enormous beetle,
bigger than Prickle,
larger than Pokey,
even longer than
Gumby is tall!
The crowd roars.



"Now if you'll focus your attention on the highest tent pole of the big top, our next attraction is the flying pair of Wellington the Walrus and Goo the Blue Wonder Girl. Drum roll, please."

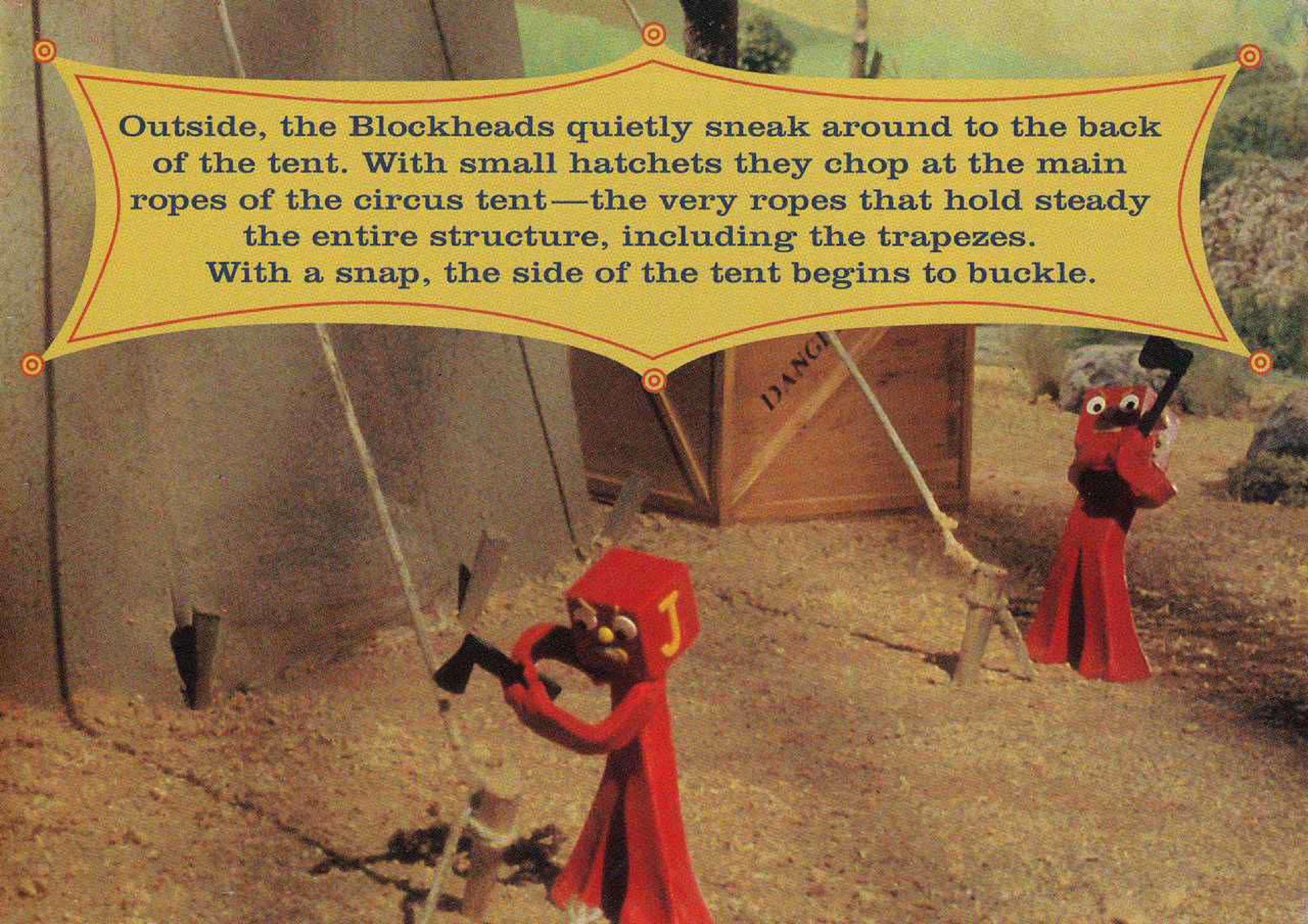


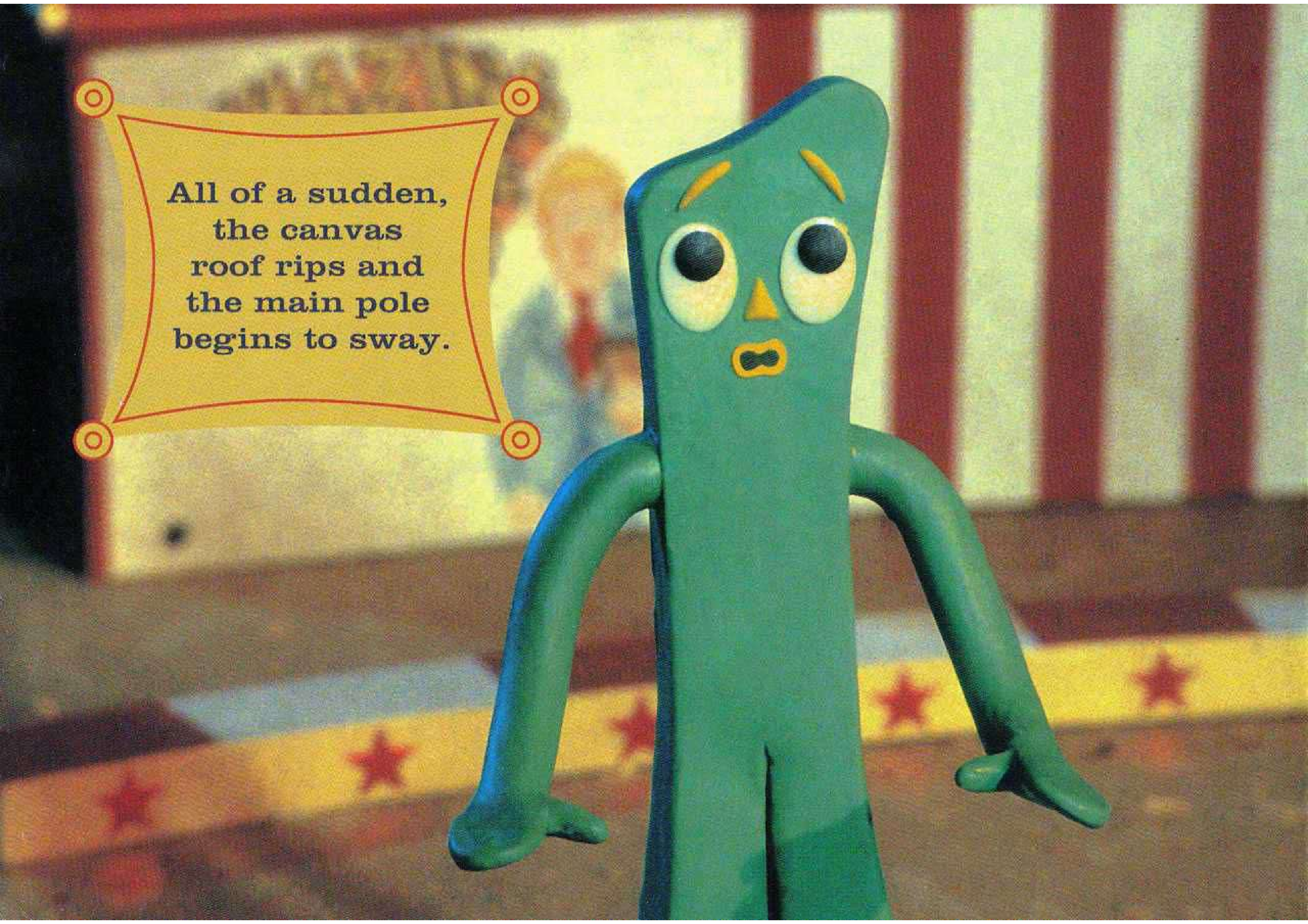


The people in the crowd
hold their breath
in awe as they watch
Wellington and Goo swing
gracefully toward
each other in mid-air. Goo
catches Wellington's
trapeze at the same moment
he catches hers and they
swing safely to
opposite platforms.



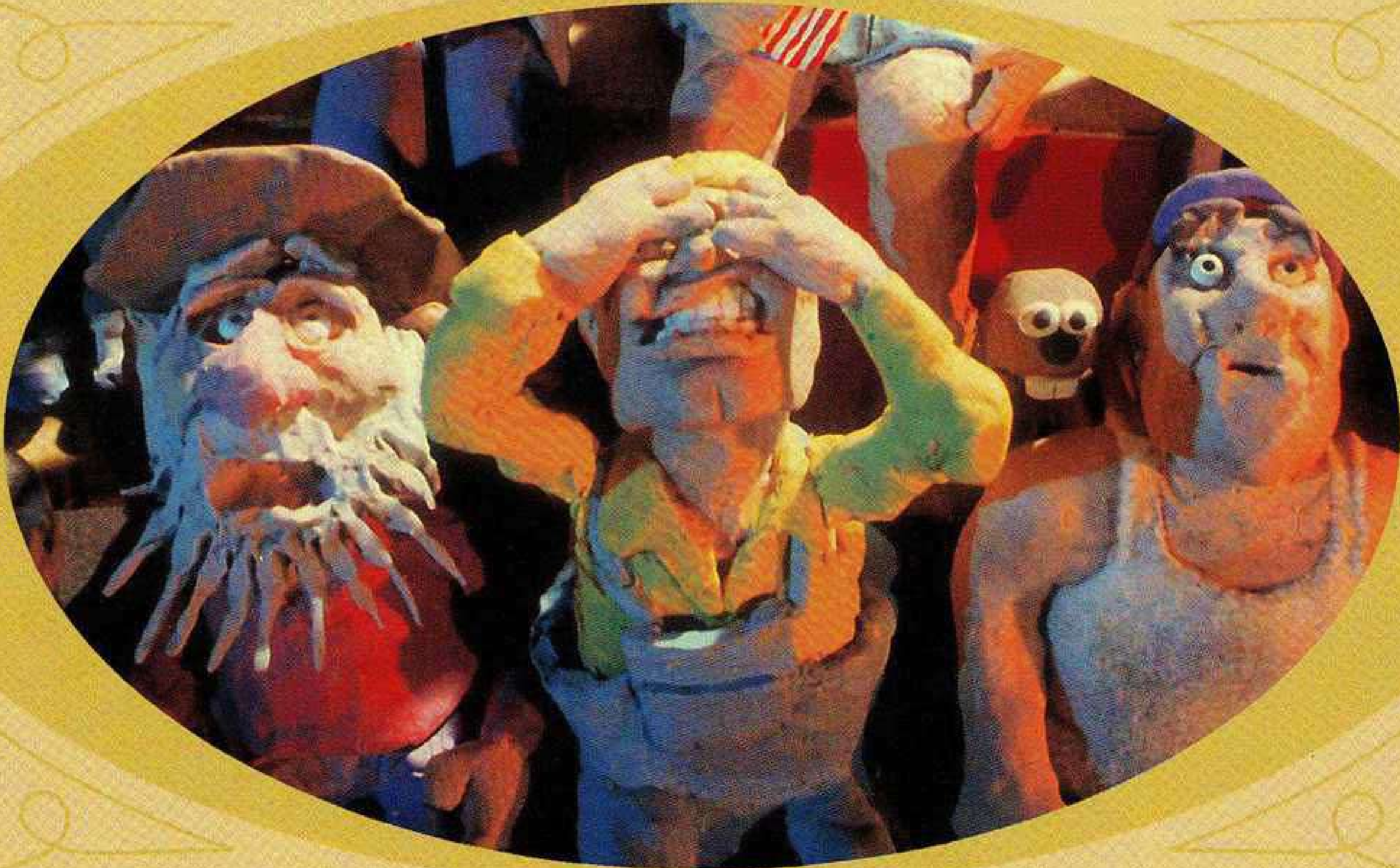
Outside, the Blockheads quietly sneak around to the back of the tent. With small hatchets they chop at the main ropes of the circus tent—the very ropes that hold steady the entire structure, including the trapezes.
With a snap, the side of the tent begins to buckle.



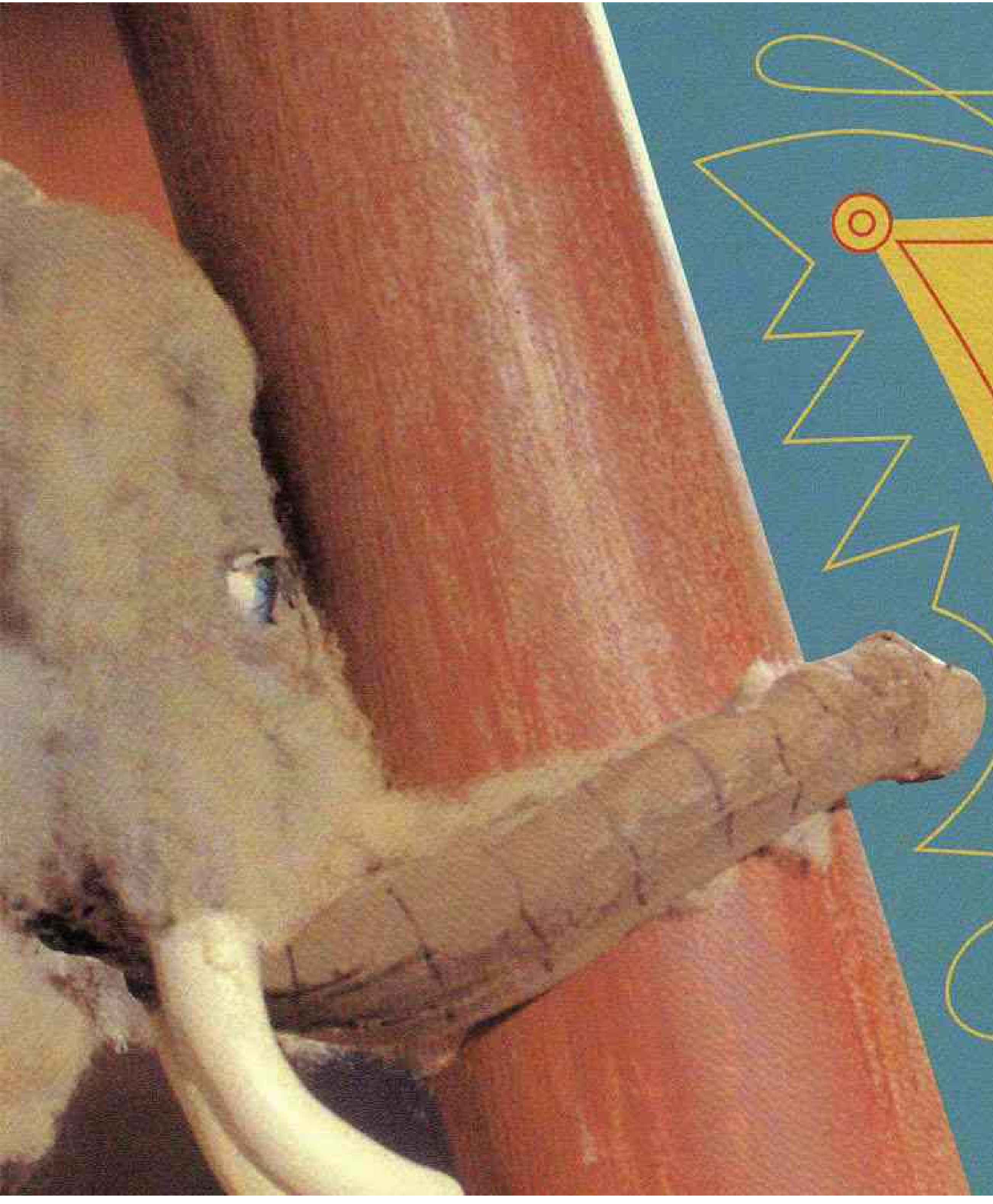


All of a sudden,
the canvas
roof rips and
the main pole
begins to sway.

"Oh no, the tent is collapsing! I can't watch!"

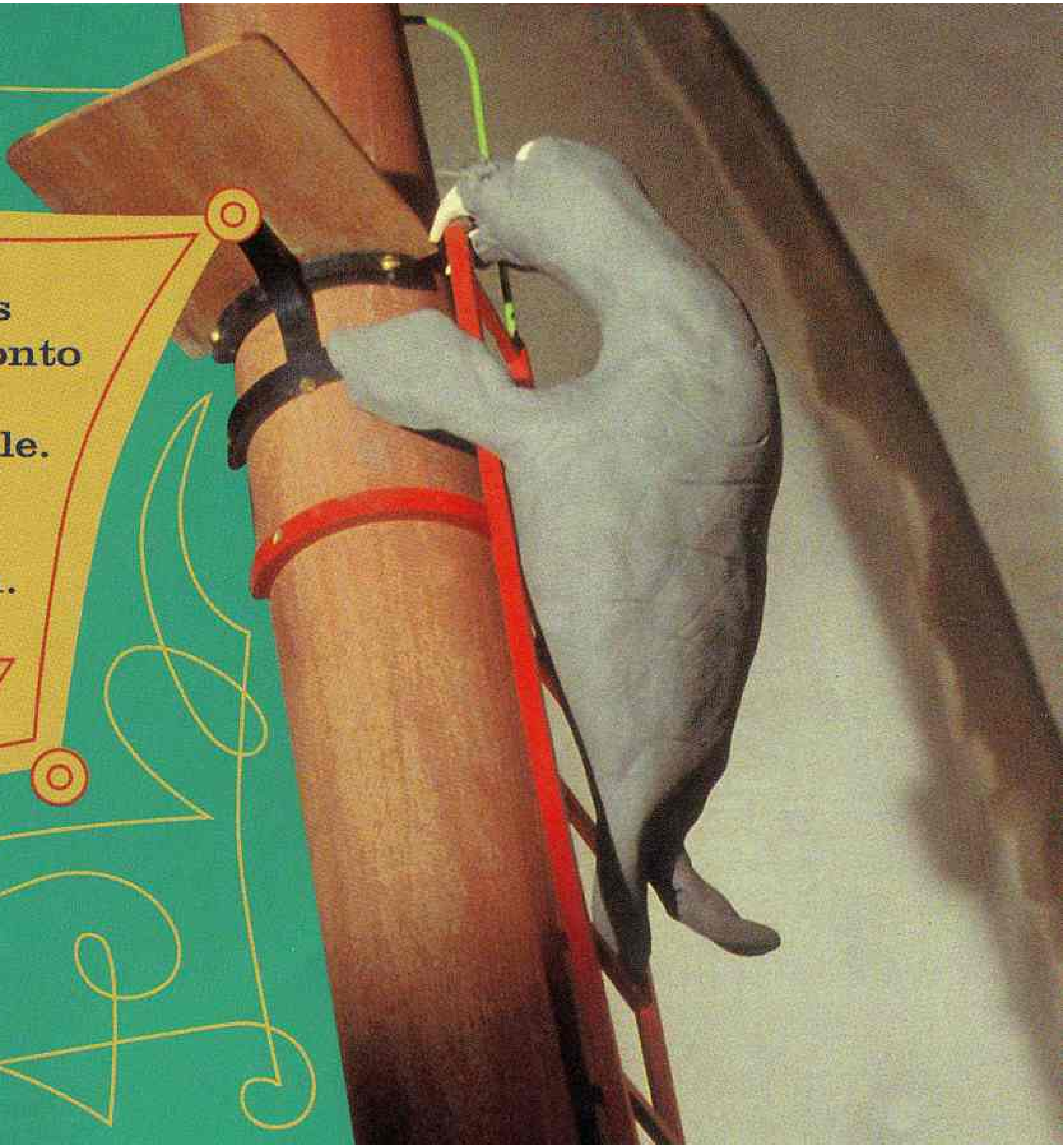


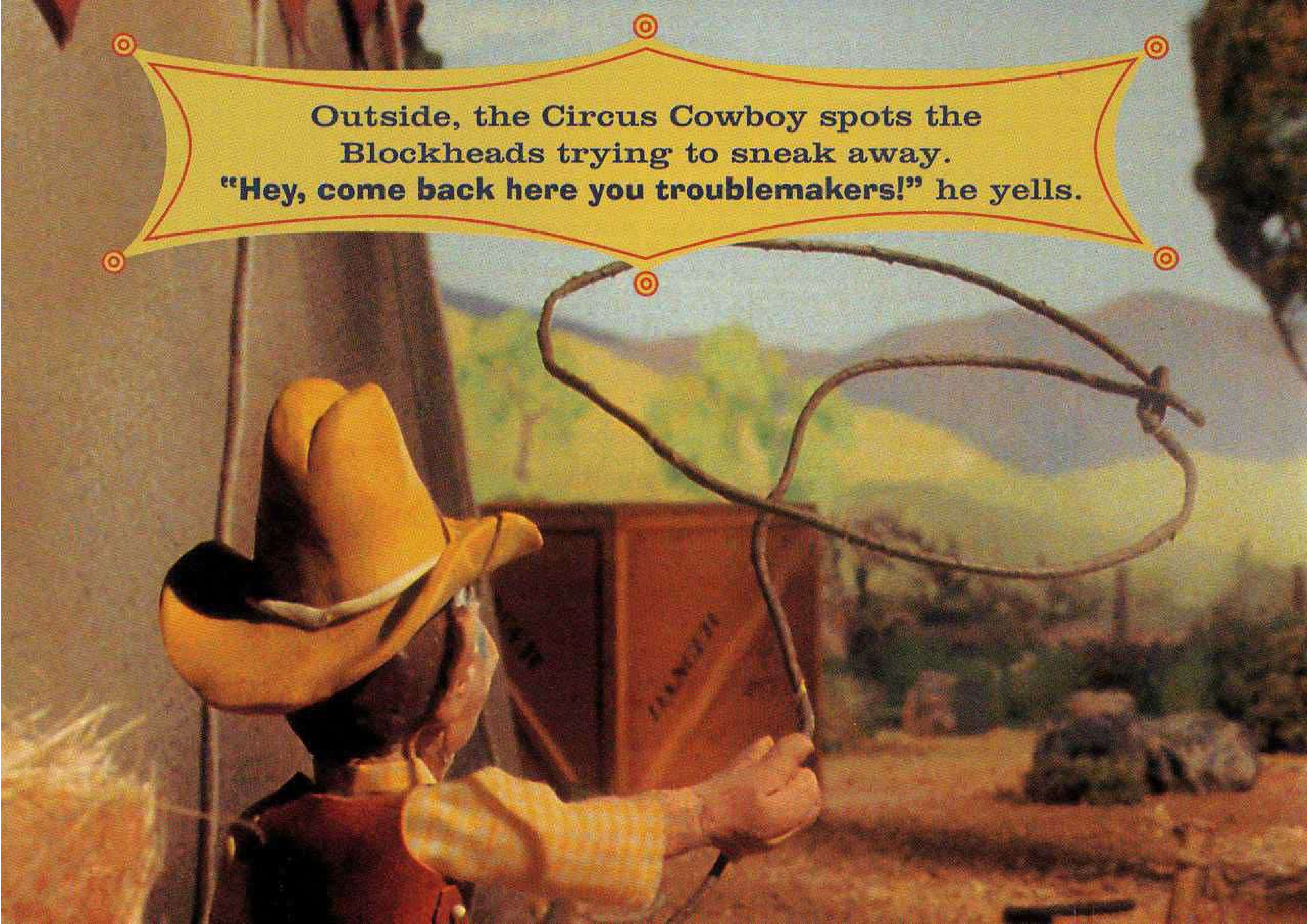
Stranded on a platform halfway up the pole,
Wellington hangs on desperately.



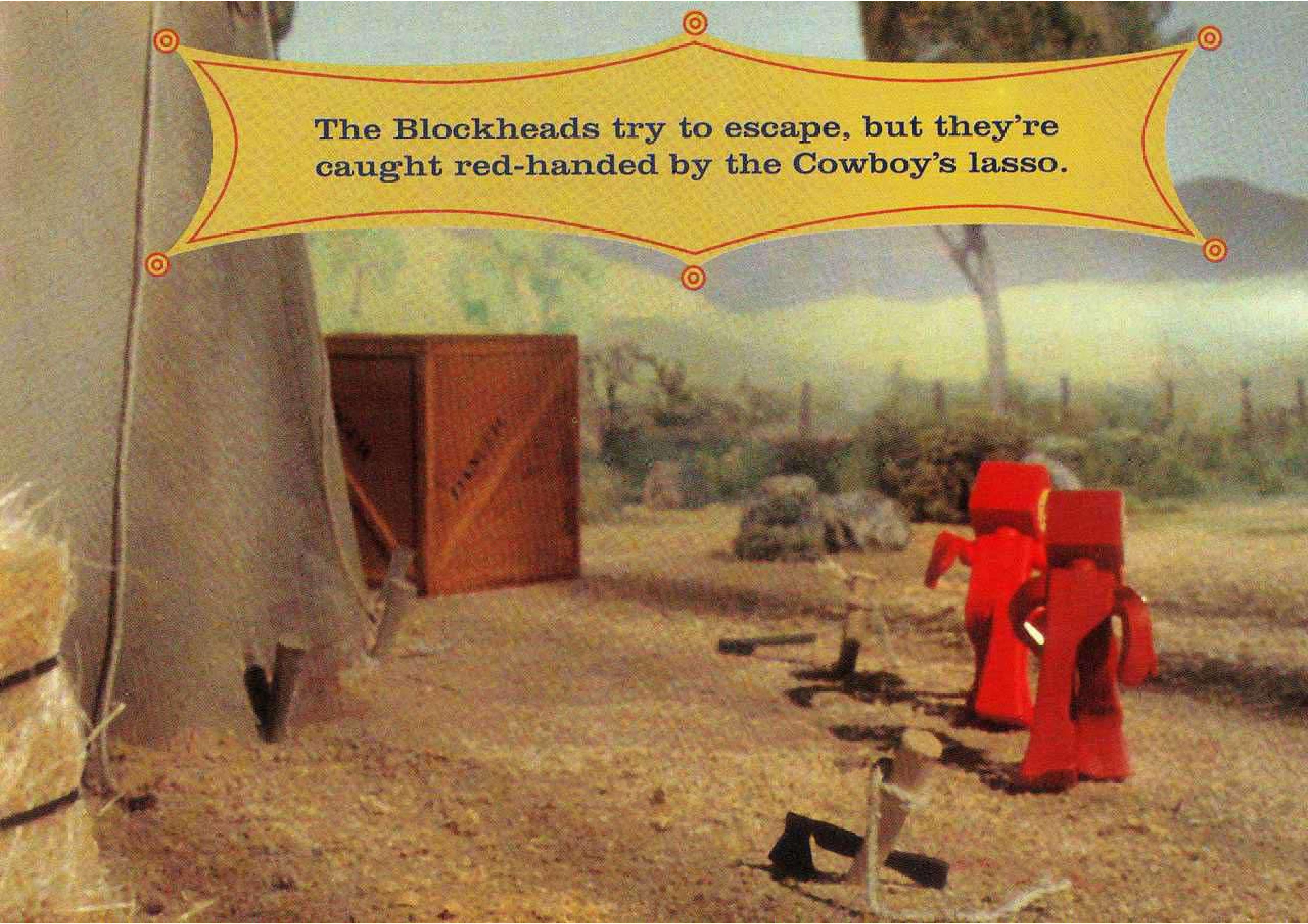
Denali to the rescue!
With his elephant
strength, the Magnificent
Mastodon grabs the
pole with his trunk
and holds it straight.
The tent is saved
from collapse.

Wellington uses his
walrus tusks to grab onto
the ladder and
shimmy down the pole.
Thanks to Denali,
he safely reaches
solid ground again.

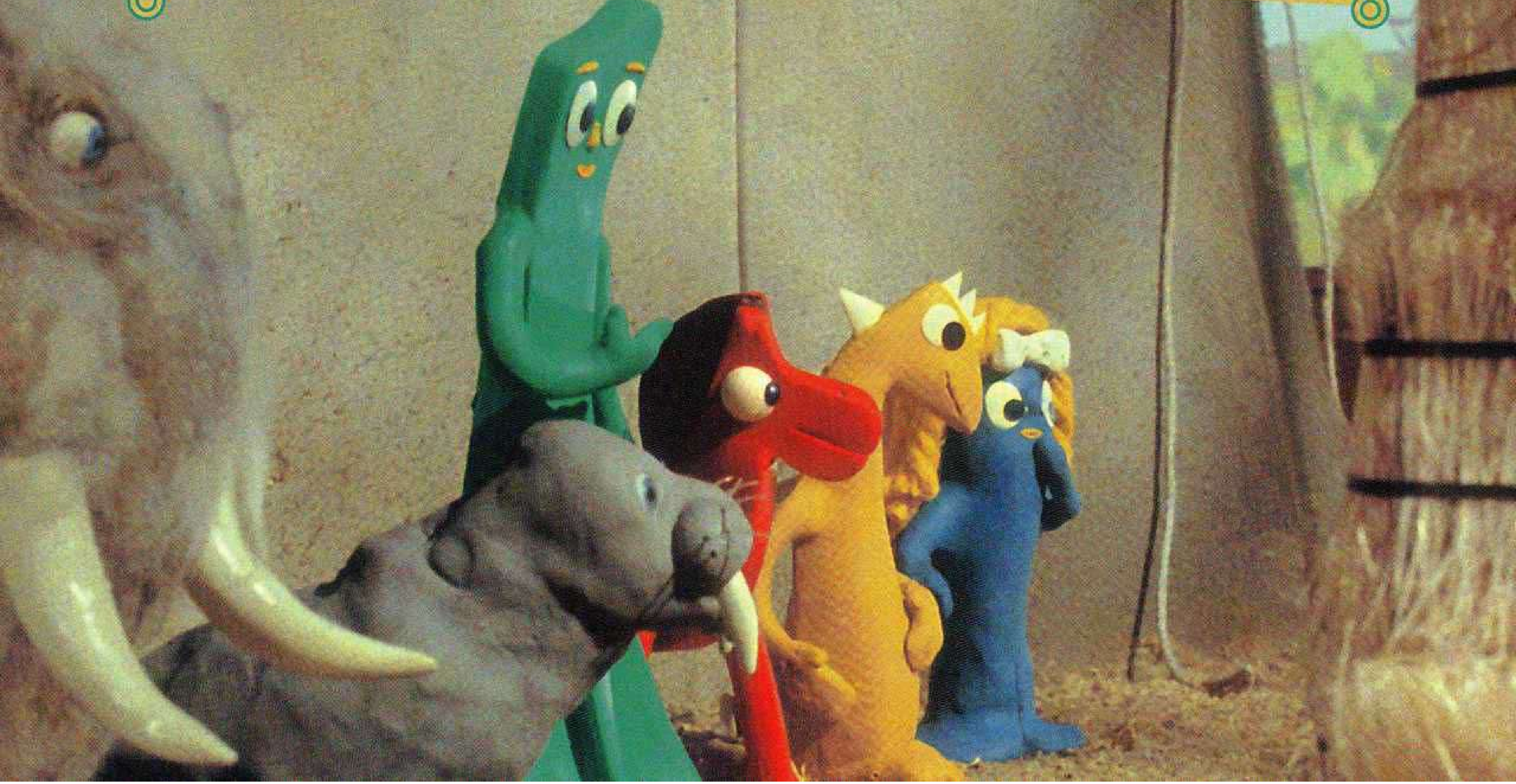



Outside, the Circus Cowboy spots the Blockheads trying to sneak away. **"Hey, come back here you troublemakers!"** he yells.

The Blockheads try to escape, but they're caught red-handed by the Cowboy's lasso.



Gumby and his friends gather around to see the Blockheads placed safely behind bars. **"Well, I guess we still need cages for the dangerous animals,"** says Gumby.





The End

To Gloria Marie Clokey

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